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## **Committee Republicans demand Homeland Security Appropriations Bill be brought to floor**

**Washington, D.C. (Thursday, July 17, 2008)**—Today, U.S. Rep. Peter T. King (R-NY), Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, along with fellow Republican Committee Members sent a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi calling on Democratic leaders to bring the Fiscal Year 2009 Homeland Security Appropriations Act to the House floor as a stand alone bill.

Reports indicate Democrat leaders plan to use a continuing resolution to fund DHS in the next fiscal year, a move that does not take into consideration changes in the Department such as new programs and changing directives.

“It’s becoming almost impossible to believe that Democrats are invested in the success of the Department of Homeland Security when the end of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress is looming and we have no authorization bill and no stand-alone appropriations bill,” King said. “Congress must exercise its oversight role in a meaningful way, and this late in the game an appropriations bill is our only option.”

When Republicans controlled Congress, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act was always one of the first appropriations bills brought to the House floor. It was not until Democrats took control of Congress that Homeland Security appropriations experienced delays, with the Fiscal Year 2008 bill being rolled into last year’s omnibus, which was not signed into law until late December 2007.

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